

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

13 SEPTEMBER 1982

Lebanon

Military Situation -- Israeli planes attacked Syrian and "terrorist" positions in central Lebanon early on 13 September, hitting targets in Al-Matn, Shtawrah and Dahr al-Baydar and destroying a SAM-9 launcher vehicle, the IDF spokesman announced in a communique reported by Jerusalem radio. While Voice of Lebanon radio said the Israelis also bombed a Palestinian refugee camp near Tripoli, official sources cited by Beirut radio denied reports of raids on the north. The previous afternoon, Israeli aircraft attacked and destroyed a SAM-9 launcher vehicle in the Dahr al-Baydar area, according to an announcement by the IDF spokesman reported by IDF radio. Earlier, after revealing that three IDF soldiers were killed by bazooka fire on 10 September, the spokesman stressed that Israel takes a very serious view of cease-fire violations in eastern Lebanon, Jerusalem radio noted. IDF radio reported another cease-fire violation on the night of 12 September and broadcast remarks by Israel's Cabinet secretary accusing the Syrians of failing to prevent violations by the "terrorists." During the 12 September Israeli Cabinet session, ministers said Israel is now at the height of a war of attrition with the Syrians and their allies, Jerusalem radio reported.

The Syrians have placed their forces on maximum alert and have announced deployment of three SAM-9 batteries in northern Lebanon, the Voice of Lebanon reported. However, monitored Syrian media have not been observed to report the Israeli air attacks on Syrian positions.

Leftist militia clashed with the Lebanese Army in west Beirut on 12 September, Beirut and Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The army cleared the gunmen from the area of the clashes, near the old east-west dividing line, but lost 1 soldier killed and 13 injured, according to a Lebanese military source's statement broadcast by the Voice of Lebanon. Six French vehicles were destroyed when an ammunition truck was hit in the gunfire and exploded, the spokesman said. The previous day, three people were killed by a car bomb in the northern city of Tripoli, according to Beirut radio.

Syrian forces will not withdraw from Lebanon to leave it an easy prey for the Israelis and Bashir al-Jumayyil's government, the Syrian paper AL-BA'TH announced over the weekend in an editorial reported by Monte Carlo radio. Earlier, French sources cited by AFP said the entire multinational force in Lebanon will leave by 14 September. The Italian contingent left Beirut on 11 September, according to the Voice of Lebanon.

Political Situation -- President-elect Bashir al-Jumayyil held meetings over the weekend with former Prime Ministers Rashid as-Sulh and Sa'ib Salam, Beirut radio reported. Salam is willing to cooperate with Al-Jumayyil's regime if it pledges not to conclude a peace treaty with Israel, the radio noted. Earlier, former President Camille Sham'un said Lebanon should sign a security agreement with Israel if it cannot sign a peace treaty, according to the Voice of Lebanon.

Israel

Rejection of Fes Plan -- Israel totally rejects the Fes plan and regards it as worse than Saudi King Fahd's 1981 proposals, and Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman announced in a 10 September statement reported by Jerusalem radio. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, in an interview with Jerusalem television, said the new Arab proposals are a repetition of previous recipes for the annihilation of the State of Israel. Even if the Fes proposals had covertly hinted at Arab recognition of Israel, the Israeli Government would have rejected them, he asserted. Any plan for a Middle East political settlement that does not obtain Israel's consent is worthless, Shamir declared in a speech reported by ITIM. The foreign minister subsequently stated in remarks broadcast by Jerusalem radio that Israel made its last concessions at Camp David and will not withdraw from any territory.

Peres Support for Reagan -- President Ronald Reagan's plan is the most realistic approach recently proposed for a solution to the Middle East conflict, Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres announced in remarks reported by ITIM. The government's path blocks the chance of peace, he contended.

Elections -- The chances of early elections have lessened because of the National Religious Party's opposition to an early poll, Jerusalem television noted on 11 September.

Aftermath of Fes Summit

The committee established by the Arab summit conference to explain the Arab position on the Arab-Israeli conflict to UN Security Council permanent member states will consist of representatives of Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Syria, Algeria, Tunisia and the PLO, Rabat radio reported on 12 September. Earlier, in a press conference reported by MAP, Moroccan King Hassan II confirmed that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will be a member of the committee. If the United States refuses to receive 'Arafat, this will not prejudice the outcome of the mission, which could go to the White House without him, King Hassan added. Asked whether Article 7 of the Arab peace plan is an implicit recognition of Israel, he said Arab recognition of Israel would follow the achievement of a "state of nonbelligerence" guaranteed by the UN Security Council and operating within the framework of pre-1967 borders, according to live coverage of the press conference by Rabat radio.

Regarding Iraqi-Syrian relations, the king revealed that Presidents Saddam Husayn and Hafiz al-Asad have agreed to meet in the presence of Saudi King Fahd in the near future in an attempt to resolve their differences. Signs of a reconciliation are apparent, King Hassan added, and the two presidents held "frank and objective" discussions during the summit conference.

The Iraqi leader meanwhile confirmed that he does not object to meeting with Al-Asad to discuss Iraqi-Syrian differences, provided that a third party is present to witness and judge the discussions. Speaking in an interview with Kuwaiti journalists in Fes, broadcast by Baghdad's Voice of the Masses radio, Saddam Husayn nevertheless continued to criticize Syria's policies and indicated that his attitude toward Al-Asad has not changed.

A statement published by the Gulf paper Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ confirmed that three members of the PLO delegation at Fes have rejected Article 7 of the Arab peace plan. Fatah Central Committee member Nimr Salih, PFLP-General Command deputy leader Talal Naji and PFLP Political Bureau member Ahmad al-Yamani said in the statement that Article 7 is a concession to Israel in return for "illusory hopes."

The summit conference disappointed Lebanon's hopes and did not attach sufficient importance to the Lebanese working paper, Lebanese Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus declared in remarks broadcast by Beirut radio on 11 September. Noting Lebanon's demand that a final end be put to all Palestinian military action from or in Lebanon and to the mandate of the Arab Deterrent Forces, Butrus said Lebanon will not accede to the PLO's demand, voiced at the summit, for a new PLO-Lebanese agreement on Palestinian military activity in Lebanon. He criticized the summit for indicating that Syria's withdrawal from Lebanon should occur after Israel's withdrawal. Such a stipulation could impede the withdrawal of all foreign forces and perpetuate the occupation, he pointed out.

A 10 September Riyadh radio commentary described the Fes summit as a "great turning point" because the Arabs now speak a common language regarding peace. The Arabs must wage a fierce "peace struggle" to strip Israel of the support it enjoys and to destroy the "wall of special relations" linking it with the United States, the radio added. While the U.S. peace plan falls short of the Arab proposals, a constructive Arab-U.S. dialogue is possible, another Saudi radio commentary affirmed.

Damascus radio credited Syria with achieving a comprehensive Arab stand at the summit and establishing the principles for struggle. A TISHRIN commentary carried by the radio said the eight principles of the Arab peace plan cannot be used as bargaining points or be modified as they constitute the minimum that the Arabs can accept. An Iranian Foreign Ministry statement broadcast by Tehran radio denounced Arab leaders participating in the summit for their "recognition" of Israel and asserted that the Palestinian issue will only be solved by the eradication of the "cancerous cell of Israel." Libya's Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi said the conference "failed terribly" and his Foreign Liaison Bureau issued a statement dissociating Libya from the summit resolutions, according to reports by Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland radio. The bureau condemned the Arab leaders' decision to "recognize" Israel as "high treason." Following a telephone conversation between Syrian President al-Asad and Colonel al-Qadhafi, the Syrian foreign minister went to Libya to discuss the Fes summit, according to Damascus radio.

During a visit to France for talks with President Francois Mitterrand, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak said the Fes conference has defined good objectives for the Middle East problem but lacks the means to implement them, according to MENA. Mubarak stressed the need to encourage President Reagan's initiative.

"Informed" Arab sources cited by KUNA said that in an "extremely positive" meeting between King Hassan II and the Algerian foreign minister held in the wake of the summit conference, Algeria and Morocco agreed to find a solution to the Western Sahara problem.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA announced early on 13 September that Iraqi fighters destroyed two Iranian naval vessels in the Persian Gulf. On 11 September, the spokesman claimed that Iraqi planes sunk an "enemy naval target" at the entrance to Khawr-e Musa, INA announced. Speaking after a 12 September Cabinet meeting, Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi stressed that the situation in the Persian Gulf is very good and denied that Iraq had destroyed an Iranian ship, IRNA reported. Meanwhile, Athens radio confirmed that a Greek ship had been hit by Iraqi fire on 11 September.

Iranian Pilgrims in Saudi Arabia

On 10 September, a Saudi official met with Iranian Pilgrim Affairs Supervisor Musavi-Kho'ini and appealed for the cancellation of a march by Iranian pilgrims in Medina scheduled for that day, Tehran radio reported. Musavi-Kho'ini explained that such activities are an Islamic duty and that Saudi security would not be violated, adding that Iran had expected Saudi Arabia to lead the way against the enemies of Islam. The radio subsequently claimed that Saudi forces attacked 72 pilgrims in Medina on 11 September. Reacting to this, Musavi-Kho'ini sent a message, carried by the radio, to the Saudi interior minister, complaining that the "ugly actions" by Saudi security forces were a violation of Islamic behavior and that nothing can stop Iranian pilgrims from carrying out their "Islamic responsibilities." He alleged that Iranian pilgrims had gathered to ask for Islamic unity against the U.S., Soviet and Israeli enemy and that the Saudi police "disgraced" their position "for the benefit of the United States."

In the message he also claimed that Iranians had been wounded and demanded that those arrested be released. Earlier, Musavi-Kho'ini addressed a Medina ceremony where a resolution was read on Islamic unity and the need to condemn any plan recognizing Israel, Tehran radio asserted. In an interview reported by the radio, he said it is essential to discuss Muslim problems in front of Islamic gatherings.

Responding to Iranian claims, a Saudi Interior Ministry source cited by Riyadh radio confirmed that 21 Iranian demonstrators had been arrested because they carried slogans which had nothing to do with the pilgrimage, adding that no one was mistreated.

Iranian Security Situation

IRNA reported that a bomb exploded in Tehran on 12 September killing one person and wounding three; the Islamic revolution committees issued an announcement asking citizens to report suspicious objects to the authorities and to "maintain vigilance," Tehran radio said. According to the radio, the Revolution Guards Corps announced that in the first phase of an operation, 50 "counterrevolutionaries" were killed or wounded and that so far in the second phase, over 100 have been killed and large quantities of weapons seized. In another operation, the guards in Khuzestan announced over Ahvaz radio that they had arrested 11 members of a breakaway faction from Peykar. Citing a Tehran paper, AFP reported that six members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq were killed and four were wounded in clashes around Tehran. In another development, the revolutionary military tribunal held a session to debate the verdicts for former Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh and 12 of his accomplices, IRNA reported.

DAILY REPORT

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AFP: FIERCE CLASHES CONTINUE IN PANJSHER VALLEY

BK111255 Hong Kong AFP in English 1233 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Text] Islamabad, Sept. 11 (AFP) -- Fierce clashes persisted in Afghanistan's northeast Panjsher Valley between Soviet troops and Moslem rebels, eyewitnesses said in reports reaching here.

Rebel sources said the mujahidin fighters had so far downed two Soviet MiG planes and six combat helicopters.

Western diplomatic sources here said "both sides" were using "heavy weaponry" to gain control of the strategic valley. They confirmed that at least three Soviet fighter planes had been shot down and at least 50 tanks and military vehicles destroyed by the Moslem fighters by last Tuesday.

The current Soviet autumn offensive against the rebels -- the sixth since Soviet troops moved into Afghanistan in December 1979 -- was launched early this month.

The rebel-run Afghan Islamic Press (AIP) today quoted an Afghan guerrilla who had just arrived in the border town of Peshawar from the war front as saying that the Soviets were resorting to "savagely bombing" raids on the mujahidin valley stronghold. The raids and widespread shelling had left at least 500 civilians dead, the guerrilla said.

He added that the rebels had shot down two MiG planes and six MI-24 helicopters in the Ushadaba, Tarandi, Menjavar and Bazarak area of the valley.

The rebel said that civilian losses could be higher as 25 people had been killed and 45 "severely injured" on Sunday in the village of Mitcha alone,

Quoting reports from Kabul, AIP said that the latest Soviet offensive in Panjsher had been "approved" by the Cabinet of the Afghan ruler Babrak Karmal.

The rebel-run agency said that during a special Cabinet session the regime "proposed" the use of chemical weapons against Moslem guerrillas in the strategic valley.

But some ministers opposed the plan, AIP said, charging that "if the government wants to do it in Panjsher, the same tactics should be applied in other troubled provinces also."

AGENTS SENT TO SOW DISCORD AMONG REBELS

BK120827 Hong Kong AFP in English 0756 GMT 12 Sep 82

[By Michel Martin-Roland]

[Text] Islamabad, Sep. 12 (AFP) -- The Soviet-Afghan forces battling Afghan rebels on the military front are reported to have launched a new "secret war of infiltration and destabilization" to spread discord within their ranks.

The pro-Soviet regime of President Babrak Karmal had sent 45,000 agents throughout Afghanistan, and among Afghan refugees in Pakistan and Iran, to break down their resistance and unity by playing on tribal rivalries, Habibullah Hidayat, until recently spokesman for the Afghan premier's office, said.

Mr Hidayat quietly left Kabul last week because the Afghan authorities suspected him of being a double agent and he feared arrest at any moment. He remained the premier's spokesman up to mid-August.

He said the Kabul agents' mission was to cause strife between refugees and frontier tribes, and to infiltrate mujahadin (rebel) movements, especially those based in the Pakistani city of Peshawar near the border.

Most of these agents -- whom he called "watan parast" (fatherland supporters) -- were paid 10 to 15 times more than the average civil servant.

He said one of their main tasks was to disturb and disorganise communications between various rebel groups by spreading documents with forged signatures.

Mr Hidayat said some of the agents were members of the Pakistani "Al Zulfiqar" movement based in Kabul and led by the two sons of former Pakistani Premier Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto who was executed in April 1979 for a "political crime."

This group, which opposes the Pakistani military regime of President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, has claimed responsibility for several terrorist attacks in Pakistan over the past two years.

Mr Hidayat said: "These people are giving precious aid to Kabul because of their knowledge of the frontier regions and their inhabitants."

There were about 100 of them in their headquarters in Kabul, with at least three commando training camps in Afghanistan, he said.

Last July, Pakistani opposition circles reported clashes between Moslem Sunnite and Shi'ite tribes in the Chitral region of north-west Pakistan, which caused 100 deaths.

Pakistani military authorities implicitly blamed the "Al Zulfiqar" movement for fomenting the fighting, but said that the terrorists had been wiped out.

According to Mr Hidayat, the Soviets were in total control of the Afghan intelligence service "KHAD", and had placed their own men at the head of each of its departments.

He named two of them as Mikhail Gritchko, responsible for Pakistani affairs, and a Mr Fekrat, from Soviet Azerbaijan, responsible for Iranian affairs.

About 30 Soviet intelligence officers were based at "KHAD headquarters" in Kabul and in general seven were based in each Afghan province. Their networks were most active along Afghan borders with Iran and Pakistan, he said.

Mr Hidayat said Kabul's main Pol-e Charki Prison, which was visited by a Red Cross delegation last month for the first time since the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan in December 1979, had become a model jail.

Arrested mujahadin rebels, he added, were not held there but in secret underground prisons, notably in the basements of the Interior Ministry and at the Kabul military hospital.

FORMER OFFICIAL ON LEADERSHIP RIVALRY IN KABUL

BK101453 Hong Kong AFP in English 1347 GMT 10 Sep 82

[By Michel Martin-Roland]

[Text] Islamabad, Sept. 10 (AFP) -- A former high Afghan official who recently fled to Pakistan today confirmed reports of a shootout in the Presidential Palace in Kabul last month which, he said, left at least six dead and many wounded.

Habibullah Hidayat, 54, an Afghan Army colonel and a top civil servant since 1967, said here that he left his post as spokesman for Prime Minister Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand on August 18 after police became suspicious of him.

Mr. Hidayat, an underground member of the Afghan fundamentalist Hezb-e Eslami Party for a dozen years, reportedly entered Pakistan secretly on September 5.

The shootout in Kabul, he said, pitted Parcham faction supporters of President Babrak Karmal and Khalq faction backers of General Gol Aqa, who had just been dismissed as chief army political officer.

He cited the clash as evidence of continued Parcham-Khalq rivalry among the top leadership.

Mr. Hidayat denied reports that President Karmal had been wounded. He declined to confirm rumors that government ministers were among the casualties.

Afghan authorities have refused to say anything about the affair. The dead were reportedly buried in secret in the middle of the night, which prevented Afghan rebels from counting the coffins.

According to Mr. Hidayat, the prime minister was working to recruit the largest possible number of personal allies within government services, but President Karmal, who has held office since the December 1979 Soviet military intervention, retained Moscow's confidence.

The military situation in Kabul has deteriorated, with rebels and government forces exchanging fire "almost every night," he said, adding that this had led to stepped-up security for government ministers, including Soviet soldiers in Afghan uniforms in the premier's entourage.

Afghan rebels were bolstering their positions in Kabul, where they enjoyed growing support from the populace, Mr. Hidayat said.

However, he noted, while he personally had been able to implement orders from the Hezb-e Eslami leadership in his work, there had been setbacks to rebel attempts to infiltrate government departments in recent months, and many agents had defected or (?were) drafted into the army.

The former official decided to flee Kabul with his family after police found compromising documents at his home. If he had been arrested, he would have faced torture aimed at extracting names before being executed, he said.

One night, Mr. Hidayat said with a broad smile, a group of armed rebels burst into his home in central Kabul. They were unaware of his underground activities and, he said, "I had a hard time convincing them that I was on their side."

Mr. Hidayat said his family was safe in an Afghan village held by the resistance.

If the Hezb-e Eslami movement wanted him to, he was ready to play an active role in the combat against Soviet-Afghan troops.

BRIEFS

CSSR TRADE UNIONS COOPERATION -- A cooperation agreement for the years 1982-1984, between the Central Council of DRA Trade Unions and the CSSR Central Council of Trade Unions was signed today in the [word indistinct] of the Central Council of DRA Trade Unions. The agreement was signed by Satar Pordeli, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the Central Council of DRA Trade Unions, and Vaclav Bezel, member of the CPCZ Central Committee and deputy chairman of the CSSR Central Council of Trade Unions. A source of the Central Council of DRA Trade Unions told the BAKHTAR correspondent that according to this agreement delegates from both sides' trade unions will visit each other's country to make use of each other's experiences. It also provides for cooperation in various areas. [Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 11 Sep 82 LD]

ADVANCE PARTY DEPARTS FOR MOSCOW MEETING

BK121646 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Text] A 25-member advance party of experts left New Delhi for Moscow today to prepare the ground for the Indo-Soviet joint commission meeting beginning on Wednesday and the prime minister's Soviet visit from the 20th of this month. The party includes secretaries of various key ministries and experts from industrial fields. Some members of the advance team will take part in the joint commission meeting.

External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao, who is the cochairman of the commission, will leave for Moscow on Tuesday.

Construction of a large refinery in India with Soviet assistance is to be discussed and a final decision taken at the meeting. The refinery has become necessary following increased oil production and paucity of refining capacity. Other projects likely to be discussed include the 800,000-ton Andhra Pradesh aluminum plant, expansion of the Visakhapatnam steel plant and further development of the aluminum plant at Korba.

Rao To Leave for Moscow 14 Sep

BK041005 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao will leave for Moscow on the 14th of this month to attend the meeting of the India-USSR joint commission. Rao and the first deputy prime minister of the USSR, Arkhipov, are the cochairmen of the commission. The meeting will be held on the 15th and 16th.

Gandhi To Visit From 20 Sep

BK041415 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 4 Sep 82

[Text] The prime minister will be leaving for the Soviet Union on a state visit on the 20th of this month. She will be in that country for 5 or 6 days. The details of her program are being worked out.

A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry told newsmen that besides Moscow, Mrs Gandhi will also pay a visit to Kiev, the capital of Ukraine, and Tallinn in the Republic of Estonia.

IRRIGATION COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH USSR

BK121343 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Text] India and the Soviet Union today signed a protocol on cooperation in irrigation, water conservation and some other connected fields. It was signed between Irrigation Minister Kedar Pandey and Soviet Minister for Water Conservation Vasilyev in Moscow. It envisages sharing Soviet experience in building urban dams with explosion blast methods and exchange of technical information on land reclamation.

Meanwhile, the seventh session of the Indo-Soviet joint commission opens in Moscow on Tuesday. Construction of a large refinery in India is to be discussed and final decision taken. Other projects to be considered include the 800,000-ton Andhra Pradesh aluminum plant and the expansion of the Visakhapatnam steel plant.

SPOKESMAN REBUTS GREEK CHARGE ON ATOMIC BOMB

BK121614 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman in Islamabad today strongly refuted the allegation of the Greek prime minister that Pakistan and Turkey are cooperating with each other in manufacturing an atomic bomb.

The spokesman described this allegation as totally baseless and said that Pakistan's position in this respect is clearly evident and its modest atomic program is solely for peaceful purposes and the question of Pakistan manufacturing an atomic bomb alone or with the cooperation of any other country does not arise.

The spokesman also drew attention to repeated high-level declarations by Pakistan that it has no intention of manufacturing or acquiring atomic weapons.

NIAZ NAIK RETURNS FROM TALKS IN MOSCOW

BK121602 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Text] Foreign Secretary Niaz A. Naik returned to Islamabad today after 2 days of discussions in Moscow on bilateral relations with regards to the agenda of the next UN General Assembly session. Naik and the first deputy foreign minister of the Soviet Union, Viktor Maltsev, had two rounds of talks. They also reviewed how the Afghanistan problem can be settled.

GEN IQBAL KHAN LEAVES FOR BEIJING VISIT

BK121533 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Text] Joint Chief of Staff Committee Chairman Gen Mohammad Iqbal Khan left Rawalpindi today for Beijing on a 2-weeks' visit to the People's Republic of China.

SPOKESMAN ON ARAB SUMMIT, REAGAN PEACE PLAN

BK111719 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman in Islamabad today expressed satisfaction over the outcome of the 12th Arab summit conference in Morocco. The spokesman said Pakistan understands that the eight-point peace plan unanimously adopted by the Arab summit conference will prove to be a positive and constructive step toward new peace efforts in the Middle East. The spokesman also said that the framework of the peace plan forwarded by President Reagan early this month contains several positive and constructive aspects, and Pakistan, while reserving its viewpoints on certain other aspects of this peace plan, has welcomed its positive and constructive aspects.

FEDERAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER SHOT DEAD

BK131029 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 13 Sep 82

[Text] A member of the Majlis-i-Shoora [Federal Advisory Council], Zahurul Hassan Bhopali, who was critically wounded in an attack in his (?Pec address) office in Karachi by two unknown assailants this afternoon, died at the Jinnah postgraduate medical center in Karachi. Two of Bhopali's office workers were also killed on the spot in the attack.

JOINT STAFF CHIEF DENIES IRAQ DESTROYED SHIP

GF111644 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 11, IRNA -- The recent Iraqi claim of having destroyed a ship or as they have also called it "a naval target", in the Persian Gulf was today denied by the chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Brigadier General Qasem 'Ali Zahirnezhad.

Talking to IRNA, General Zahirnezhad said, considering that Iraq's oil exports through the Persian Gulf have been halted, due to the destruction of the oil exporting installations of Al-Bakr, Al-Umayyah and Al-Faw, the Iraqi regime, from time to time, tried to portray the Persian Gulf as being insecure.

The chief of the Joint Staff further reiterated that Iranian naval forces have complete control over the Persian Gulf, thus exercising full sovereignty.

MUSAVI DENIES SHIP SUNK BY IRAQIS IN GULF

LD122040 Tehran IRNA in English 1915 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 12 IRNA -- All measures against U.S. lackeys and internal plots have been coordinated and the government's political sovereignty remains stronger than ever before, announced Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi this morning after the Cabinet session.

The prime minister was elaborating on the measures enacted for the domestic security of the country when he said the MKO [Mojahedin-e Khalq] suffered a great blow after Musa Khabani (man No 2 of the MKO) was killed and their organisation was destroyed and lost its balance, and when their contacts with provinces were cut.

He said Iran will face these cabals as long as the Islamic revolution treads its original path.

These groups target the people, continued the prime minister, for they are incapable of doing anything. [sentence as received] He added that this attested to their weakness. He went on to say that a group which claims to be dependent on the nation, had placed itself against the populace and now had reached the end of the line.

Speaking on the war, the prime minister said that Iranian forces were ready to inflict the last determining blows on the enemy and that Iran's readiness was greater than any time before in ideological, spiritual, and material aspects. He said these readiesses had given us the chance for the realisation of our terms.

He also said that Iran will resort to fulfilling its terms by arms, if other avenues are of no use.

He further refuted Saddam's claim Saturday of having destroyed an Iranian ship in Persian Gulf waters and said that Saddam had lost face because of his lies and that British insurance companies had announced the falsity of such a claim, and hence Iraq lost political face.

He also said that the situation in the Persian Gulf region was very good and that its forces were ready to inflict heavy blows on the enemy, and that it was natural for Iraq to threaten us with its sophisticated technology, but Iran has proven over the past two months the futility of Iraqi regime's threats.

The prime minister condemned the Iraqi regime's cabals in Mecca this year, printing an erroneous and distorted Koran with a picture of Imam Khomeyni and portraying it to be on behalf of Iran, and that other pilgrims who observed Iranians' behavior and their ideology were the best of judges.

He then said the enemy cannot do a thing, as it has proved to be a failure so far.

He said that the recognition by deprived nations of Iran has attested to this, such as the participation of the Bangladesh religious leader, who leads more than 40 million Sunni Muslims, well indicated that the message of our Islamic revolution has reached the downtrodden nations of the world and it will soon reach all corners of the globe.

BAGHDAD'S CLAIMS OF DAMAGE IN GULF REBUTTED

LD102042 Tehran IRNA in English 1930 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, Sept 10, IRNA -- Political circles in Europe have openly expressed doubt about the authenticity of reports from Baghdad of having attacked and damaged foreign vessels in and near the Persian Gulf Island of Khark. Shipping companies in Europe are showing signs of disbelief of the Baghdad claims.

The Lloyds Company said in London Wednesday that on the basis of reports from their own agents, and despite the recent claim by Baghdad of having damaged the oil terminal of the island, the terminal continued its normal operation and that no vessel had been drowned or damaged.

The London TIMES said yesterday that many companies were willing to dispatch their vessels to Khark Island despite intimidating threats by Baghdad. It said also that until Tuesday a total of ten vessels were scheduled to dock at the island, and that none of them cancelled their journey. The paper added that Iraq's seemingly empty intimidation might bring in results contrary to that envisaged by the Iraqi regime.

Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani said last week that despite its threats, Baghdad had not conducted a single attack against the oil installations in the island or against approaching vessels. He said by publishing exaggerated claims, Iraq meant only to dissuade international vessels from approaching Khark.

MINISTER DISCUSSES INSURANCE FOR OIL TANKERS

NC111854 Paris AFP in English 1847 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, Sept 11 (AFP) -- Iran has deposited 300 million dollars with foreign banks to guarantee oil tanker risk coverage by the insurance company of Iran, Oil Minister Mohammad Gharazi said today.

Iran had on September 2 proposed insuring, through its oil insurance company, tankers en route to its refinery on the gulf Island of Khark at a rate of one percent of the combined value of vessel and cargo.

Standard insurance rates on Khark-bound vessels have skyrocketed in recent weeks -- at one point reaching seven percent -- as a result of Iraqi bombings.

"The insurance at the one percent rate is working," Mr Gharazi said in a television address after a visit to Khark yesterday, during which he was filmed observing four tankers being loaded with oil.

"The plot aimed at preventing the sale of Iranian oil has failed," he said.

SUPREME DEFENSE COUNCIL HOLDS SESSION 9 SEP

LD092200 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 9 Sep 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the Supreme Defense Council held a session tonight chaired by President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i.

In this session the following were present: Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council; Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, prime minister; Brigadier General Zahirnezhad, chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran; Colonel Salimi, defense minister; Mohsen Reza'i, commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps; Colonel Sayyad-Shirazi, commander of the ground forces; Sham'khani, deputy commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps; Dr Velayati, foreign affairs minister; and Kamal Charazi, supervisor of the War Publicity Headquarters. The latest developments on the fronts of the war imposed by Iraq on Iran were studied.

At the conclusion of this session, our correspondent was given an interview by Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council. The details of this interview will be broadcast in later newscasts since they are not ready yet.

Rafsanjani on Meeting

LD101046 Tehran IRNA in English 0900 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran Sept. 10 IRNA -- The Supreme Defence Council [SDC] Thursday evening reviewed the general situation on the warfronts as well as recent successful mopping up operations in the Provinces of Kordestan and West Azarbayjan, where most of the illegally armed counter-revolutionaries are stationed.

Majlis Speaker and SDC spokesman Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaking to reporters after the meeting, stated that plans in connection with purging operations in the two provinces were discussed and decisions were taken in that regard.

Asked about the recent propaganda by the Western mass media alleging that the Strait of Hormuz was not secure for shipping, the Majlis speaker pointed out that "they aim at halting our oil exports." Nevertheless, added Rafsanjani, with the timely reaction of the Iranian defence forces in the region as well as the appropriate announcement of the insurance company, "we could prove that there is complete security around the Khark oil terminal and that the ships loading oil there are live evidences that the security of the Persian Gulf is under our control.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani further stated that the Iraqi enemy's propaganda tricks would be disclosed during the "war week" (starting Sept 22nd coinciding with the major Iraqi invasion against Iran's oil rich Khuzestan Province in southern country) and that the Iranian people would be further informed of the war issues. He stressed that the war week must be held very actively and urged the people to prove during the week that they were not tired of the war and thus encourage the Islamic combatants.

Regarding the idea that Iraq has been backed by certain Arab leaders during the current Arab summit conference in Fes, Morocco, the Majlis speaker said most of the countries participating in the conference have practically backed the Iraqi regime by giving it financial aid and through supplying the Iraqi Army with arms. The propaganda machines of these countries, too, have been serving the tottering regime of Saddam Husayn, said Rafsanjani, and he added that arms loaded ships were still seen moving towards Iraq from Kuwait, Saudi Arabian, Jordanian and Egyptian ports. Jordan, he added, has even dispatched its troops to Iraq to fight against Iran. However, stressed the Majlis speaker, the Islamic Republic is confident that the steadfastness countries have adopted a common stand with Iran, which Rafsanjani said removed any worry by Iran in this regard.

The imam's representative also denied reports by foreign news agencies that the Islamic Republic had overlooked two of its conditions for ending the Iraqi imposed war. The rumour was spread by certain foreign press and news agencies, following the trip last week of the Algerian foreign minister, Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, to Iran. "No talks have been held in this regard at all," reiterated Rafsanjani.

He said the Islamic Republic would not seriously enter into negotiations unless "we really feel that the enemy is serious to end the war and surrender to righteousness." The SEC spokesman once again emphasised that Iran would not decline from its peace conditions.

The Majlis speaker mocked at the Iraqi claim that it had downed, since the outbreak of the war some 23 months ago, 834 Iranian aircraft, destroyed over 4,000 tanks and martyred more than 200,000 of the Islamic combatants, but added that "when getting our war reparations, we will count on these words as evidence." However, he stressed, Iran would not get anything more than its legitimate rights and a compensation for the real damage which has been inflicted upon it by the enemy.

In conclusion of his statements, the Majlis speaker praised Iranian technicians for repairing spare parts of warplanes and said that the Americans did not even imagine that the Iranians could repair the spare parts even in the next ten years. He said that Iranian technicians have been very successful in repairing F-14 jet fighters.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,043

LD101726 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Communique No 1,043 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. During the past 24 hours, exchange of heavy- and light-weapon fire continued all along the western fronts between the combatants of the ground forces of the army of Islam and Saddam's forces, as a result of which the enemy sustained casualties.

The powerful combatants on the southern fronts returned artillery and mortar fire on enemy positions; in the operational regions of Khorramshahr and Abadan, a number of enemy soldiers were either killed or wounded. Sporadic exchange of fire continued along the southern fronts and it was more intense in (?one region).

Due to fire by the heroes of the navy on enemy fortifications and positions on the other side of the Arvand Rud, five trenches, one foxhole and an observation post of the Saddamists were destroyed.

The town of Abadan came under fire by long-range weapons, as a result of which 2 houses were destroyed, 3 others caught fire, and 16 people were injured.

Encroachments by Iraqi planes violating the airspace of our country were repeatedly foiled by the follow-up and tactical moves of the courageous pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the brave personnel of the antiaircraft defense units.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,044

LD111730 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Communique No 1,044 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, relying upon their faith and dedication and in a determined manner, are continuing with their righteous battle against the aggressive enemy.

In the past 24 hours on the country's western fronts, the combatants of Islam mounted heavy-artillery fire on the Iraqi forces' concentration points and positions, and silenced enemy fire while defending their positions. Our forces continued to clear minefields and defuse planted mines in the same region and are now consolidating their positions.

In the southern operational zone, engagements with enemy forces took place in the form of exchanges of fire; our units continued to defend their protective regions and had the Iraqi forces' activities under their control.

The combatants of Islam opened fire across the Arvand Rud on the enemy positions, preventing the enemy from digging new trenches and killing or wounding a number of Saddam's forces by destroying three of their bunkers.

The city of Abadan, as on previous days, was under heavy enemy shelling, which set fire to one school building and destroyed two houses.

Iraqi aircraft which violated the airspace of some of the southern and western frontier cities were driven off by our air defense units.

On 8 or 9 September one gendarmerie combatant personnel and five combatants of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran were martyred at Dezful operation zone. Greetings upon their souls and long live their memory.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,045

LD121742 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Communique No 1,045 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. In the past 24 hours the zealous combatants of the army of Islam, with faith in God, stabilized their positions and defense lines, had the aggressive enemy's situation under surveillance and stopped enemy reconnaissance and patrol operations by mortar and artillery fire. During this period, encroaching Iraqi aircraft repeatedly violated the airspace of the Islamic Republic but they were forced to leave by the vigilance of the combatants of the air defense units and tactical measures of the self-sacrificing pilots of the air force.

The self-sacrificing personnel of the ground forces are still discovering minefields and mopping up the western and northwestern operational areas.

Opening mortar and artillery fire on the enemy's positions and trenches in the (Helaleh) and Meymak areas, the brave combatants of the ground forces destroyed one of the Saddamists' guns and damaged several of their vehicles and inflicted effective losses on the enemy forces. In these operations the heavy fire of the Iraqi Army was silenced.

Sporadic exchanges of fire continued in the southern operational areas between our forces and those deceived by Saddam; as a result losses were inflicted upon the weapons and personnel of Saddam's army.

The resisting and heroic city of Abadan, as on previous days, occasionally came under the long-range and heavy-weapon fire of the mercenaries of the Ba'thist Iraqi Army. The enemy's shells set fire to two areas in the city and one person was injured.

On 10 September of this year the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran offered 10 martyrs and the gendarmerie one martyr to the imam and the Muslim Iranian nation.

May their souls rest in peace and their path be followed until the oppressed have gained their rights.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

FOREIGN MINISTRY DENOUNCES FES RESOLUTION

LD101338 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of our country has issued a statement in connection with the ending of the Arab summit in Morocco and the issuing of a resolution which recognizes the usurping Zionist regime:

"Israel should be obliterated from the face of the earth" -- Imam Khomeyni.

The Arab summit conference in Morocco ended its sessions and issued a resolution revolving around the issue of recognizing the usurping Zionist regime.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while condemning the conspiratorial plans of the United States and Israel in confronting the Palestinian aspirations, regards the resolution issued after the Arab summit conference as an important turning point in implementing these plans, whose basic goal is to end the struggles of the Palestinian nation against the aggression of imperialism and international Zionism, and announces: The recognition of the Zionist regime at the Fes conference is a seal of approval by the Arab leaders taking part in the conference of the occupation of Palestine and Jerusalem and the repeated aggressions of the criminal U.S. and usurping Zionism against Islamic lands and the scorning of the Islamic nation during 34 years of Israeli crimes and aggression. At the same time, this recognition would indicate complete disregard of the wrongs inflicted upon the homeless Palestinian nation and is a clear sign of the collaboration of some of the reactionary leaders of Arab countries with world arrogance and international Zionism toward the implementation of the Camp David process.

The solution of the Palestinian issue will not be possible except through the eradication of the cancerous cell of Israel from the region and through returning the lands of Palestine and Jerusalem to their original owners. The continuation of an uncompromising and armed struggle by the Islamic nation, relying upon God and making use of ideological methods of struggle, will be the guarantee for the liberation of Jerusalem and the occupied Palestinian lands.

Usurping Israel, enjoying the full support of the world-devouring United States, will not cease its efforts for a moment for the sake of implementing the satanical dream of occupying Islamic lands from the Nile to the Euphrates. To withdraw in the face of the ambitions of world arrogance and Zionism and to make such concessions will only further pave the way for future aggressions and will make the criminal Israel more bold and arrogant in continuing its coercive methods.

At the moment, at the height of the savage attacks of the Zionist regime against the Palestinian fighters, 1 billion world Muslims feel more sympathetic toward and more closely connected with the Palestinian aspirations. In fact, today every committed Muslim, in any corner of the world, feels like a wronged and self-sacrificing Palestinian.

Such compromises will certainly not be supported by the nations in those Islamic countries and doubtless will further strengthen the determination of the multimillion Muslim masses in their support for the Palestinian aspirations and final confrontation against world arrogance, Zionism and the dependent regimes.

The Islamic Republic of Iran regards comprehensive support for the Palestinian aspirations and struggling for the liberation of Palestine and Jerusalem as its Islamic duty and will always remain on the side of the Palestinian nation until the final victory.

KHAMENE'I SCORES ARAB LEADERS' SUPPORT FOR U.S.

LD121130 Tehran IRNA in English 1005 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 12, IRNA -- President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i said Saturday that the so-called Arab leaders paved the way for the enactment of a disgraceful plan in the region and a vicious plot in the history of Palestinians which the United States had, for long, failed to fulfill.

The U.S., President Khamene'i added, which considered the Camp David accords as a dead pact, was encouraged by these lackey rulers of the region to the extent that it dared to propose the present project which, as these same reactionary leaders stressed, was within the Camp David's framework.

The president, speaking to a gathering of personnel of the pilot training faculty of the air force and heads of political and ideological centres of the forces Saturday afternoon, noted that if these subservient elements in the region had not supported the U.S., it would have failed.

These same rulers had suppressed any revolutionary movement and their objective at present was to remove the Islamic revolution and Republic of Iran, the president added.

But, he remarked, they should know that the more they increased their opposition to the Islamic Republic, it will become more stable.

President Khamene'i called on the gathering to strive to cut any dependence to the U.S., especially in the field of their activity, adding that after their graduation they would have nothing less than U.S. or Soviet pilots.

ARABS WARNED AGAINST RECOGNIZING ISRAEL

GF101948 Tehran IRNA in English 1620 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Excerpt] Tehran Sept. 10 IRNA -- The temporary Friday prayers leader of Tehran, Hojjat ol-Eslam Emami-Kashani, today warned moderate Arab governments against adopting any resolution which might imply their recognition of the regime occupying Al-Quds.

"The Zionist regime must be obliterated from the face of the earth," said the hojjat ol-Eslam quoting a recent statement from Imam Khomeyni. "It (the Zionist regime) is sordid, and a sordid being is unlikely to do anything good."

He warned the moderate Arab governments of the "wrath" of the Muslim peoples and of their peoples eventual uprising against their governments, in the event they should proceed with conciliatory approaches towards recognising the regime occupying Al-Quds.

The hojjat ol-Eslam, who was addressing a multitudinous group of Tehranis at the Friday mass prayers at Tehran University compounds here, said elsewhere in his speech that the activities of the enemies of the Islamic revolution inside the country were apparently fully coordinated with the activities of the foreign enemies of the Islamic Republic.

He labelled U.S. President Ronald Reagan as "the most bloodthirsty of all bloodsuckers of the world" who had praised Philip Habib and "his criminal acts as efforts in the interest of freedom."

REPORTAGE ON IRANIAN PILGRIMS IN SAUDI ARABIA

Kho'ini Refuses To Cancel March

LD101306 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] According to reports dispatched by correspondents of the Central News Unit and IRNA from the holy city of Medina, the Saudi Arabian minister of pilgrimage affairs and religious trusts met and conferred with Mr Musavi-Kho'ini, the imam's representative and supervisor of the Iranian pilgrims, at the site of the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI] yesterday afternoon. During this meeting, which took place following the invitation sent to the Iranian pilgrims by the imam's representative asking them to take part at the Friday union marches, the Saudi Arabian minister asked for the cancellation of today's march. In reply, the imam's representative said: Certainly you have been informed of Imam Khomeyni's decree by the Saudi Arabian Embassy in the IRI and by various mass media. This decree was issued to me and I cannot deviate from its content. We are dutybound to obey Imam Khomeyni, as our great political leader and a religious source.

The Saudi Arabian minister of pilgrimage affairs and religious trusts said: Any action which violates order and created discomfort to other pilgrims should not take place. In reply, the imam's representative said: Do slogans such as "Death to Israel" and "Death to the United States" create disorder? Do such slogans bring discomfort to Muslims? Today, by taking part in the Muslims' Friday prayers, we want to silence those voices which call us infidels [mashrekis].

In reply to other remarks by the Saudi Arabian minister, who said that other groups might take some action against you, the imam's representative said: We have ordered the Iranian pilgrims not to show any reaction if they are insulted or assaulted by the Saudi Arabian police or others. He added: We shall persevere until our last dying breath. But we shall (?endure) any action today so that the world can see that we are wronged. Of course, the Saudi Arabian Government will be responsible on this matter.

In reply to a claim made by the Saudi Arabian minister, who said that they are neutral in the war and would like to have good relations with Iran, the imam's representative said: In connection with the war, there is a lot we would like to talk about and if we meet with responsible Saudi Arabian authorities on this matter we shall talk about these things.

In connection with the Friday union day marches, the imam's representative emphasized: We do not intend to violate security; rather, we intend to invite the Muslims to unite against the United States, Israel and the Soviet Union. He added: We are surprised to see that you oppose this action; we expected you to lead the way.

In reply to another claim by the Saudi Arabian minister that the Fes summit has been insulted in the circular issued inviting Muslims to take part at today's unity marches, the imam's representative said: We have not insulted the Fes summit and we welcome any gatherings of heads of the Islamic countries for making decisions on struggling against the usurping Israel and on endeavoring to unify the Muslims.

He went on: We have condemned recognition of the usurping Zionist regime in our circular and this is the view of all Muslims in the world.

The imam's representative added: We do not intend to demonstrate against any Islamic government today. But do not expect us not to chant slogans against the United States, the usurping Zionism and the occupying Soviet Union.

Kho'ini Addresses Pilgrims

LD101912 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Central News Unit correspondent's report from Medina]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Following the call by the imam's representative and the supervisor of the Iranian hajj pilgrims to the Muslims holding hajj ceremonies to take part in the unity march and to participate in the Friday prayers, this morning a ceremony was held in Abu Dhar Square in the city of Medina with the participation of throngs of Iranian pilgrim sisters and brothers within a Saudi police cordon.

In these ceremonies, attended by the imam's representative and the supervisor of the Iranian pilgrims and also a group of our country's officials and authorities, after the recitation of verses from the holy Koran, challenging slogans were chanted by the participants in the ceremonies, condemning the crimes committed by America, the usurping Israel's aggression against Lebanon and Palestine and the occupation of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union.

In continuation of these ceremonies Mr Musavi-Kho'ini made a speech, referring to the need for unity among the more than 1 billion Muslims in the world against the aggression of America, the Soviet Union and Israel, and addressed the leaders of Islamic countries, saying: Oh, leaders of Islamic countries, do not be afraid of America, Israel or the Soviet Union; we are all Muslims and we are only responsible to the Almighty, and He is our supporter. In another part of his speech he said: [recorded passage indistinct]

After the Arabic translation of Mr Musavi-Kho'ini's speech, the march's resolution, in 11 articles, was read. The resolution emphasized the criminal America's sinister designs in the region; the aggression of the usurping Zionist region against Lebanon; the homelessness of the oppressed people of Palestine; the Soviet Union's deathly silence in the face of these crimes; the invasion of Afghanistan by the Eastern superpower; the need for unity among the world's Muslims for opposing all the satanic powers and the elimination of ungodly and un-Islamic cultures throughout the Islamic countries; the need to end the domination of outsiders in these countries; the endeavor to materialize the slogan of "Neither East nor West, an Islamic regime"; and the need to remove the cancerous tumor of Israel.

Another part of the resolution expressed support for the struggling Muslim people of Africa, the struggle against the Soviet hegemony and the need for assistance to the Muslim Afghan mujahidin. Any plan sanctioned in [word indistinct] or in any other place aimed at recognizing the regime occupying Jerusalem was condemned and was considered as betraying Islam and the Palestinian Revolution and as service to the arch-Satan.

Then all the pilgrims taking part in the ceremonies, holding hands, chanted unity slogans. The invalids of the Islamic revolution, with the clergymen and the officials and authorities of our countries in front of the marchers, followed by the participants in the ceremonies, chanting challenging slogans, moved toward the An-Nabi Mosque to hold Friday prayers.

Kho'ini on Politics of Hajj

LD111810 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Text] This morning, in an interview, Mr Musavi-Kho'ini, the imam's representative and the supervisor of Iranian pilgrims, elaborated on the problems created for Iranian pilgrims and pilgrims from other countries.

Answering a question about the points raised at his meetings with Saudi officials, he said: All the discussions circle around one issue: The separation of religion from politics.

The Saudi officials said the hajj is a series of religious procedures that should be done in peace and quiet, and political issues should not be raised in the hajj. In our view, this opinion is against the behests of the Koran and the ways of the prophet of Islam.

The prophet chose the hajj to raise several very important political issues. He said: These officials do not intend to get the people involved and chant slogans like "Death to America," "Death to Israel," and "Death to Russia." They do not want the people to be present at the scene to make decisions. But, just as we consider the hajj procedures obligatory and go through them correctly, we consider it necessary, from a religious point of view, to discuss the problems of the Muslims in great Muslim gatherings. At present, the crimes of the United States, Israeli aggression and the occupation of Afghanistan by the USSR are these problems.

The imam's representative, referring to the number of pilgrims injured or arrested in these marches and the steps taken in this respect, said: We have taken measures to give the Saudi officials notice, to protest and to gain the release of the prisoners. But I feel that the Saudi officials are not willing to [words indistinct] over these principled acts. Therefore, in my meetings I tried to reason with the Saudi officials and prove to them that, according to the religion, we are responsible to adhere to the ways of the prophet and the word of the Koran and do these acts. But they did not have any answer and resorted to threats. Under the present circumstances they would not get anywhere.

At the end of this interview, he stressed the need for extended publicity campaigns to clarify issues for world Muslims and inform them of the crimes committed by America, Israel and Russia. They are oblivious to the danger presented by Israel, which threatened the [word indistinct] of Mecca and Medina. We should clarify these issues for world Muslims.

Police Break Up Gatherings

LD121214 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Text] Last night the Saudi Arabian police attacked a gathering of Koran chanters in Masjid an-Nabi. We have a report in this connection:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

At midnight last night Saudi and security forces attacked 72 Koran chanters who, honoring the martyrs of 27 June [anniversary of the explosion at the central headquarters of the Islamic Republican Party in which Ayatollah Beheshti and others were killed], travelled to Saudi Arabia to visit the house of God. The chanters were reading the Koran behind the closed doors of the shrine by the grave of the great prophet -- peace and God's benediction be upon him and his descendants -- when the police and security forces attacked them, broke their (?placards), sprayed them with water and insulted them in the worst possible way, thus disrupting the session. The Koran chanters and other brothers and sisters present at the gathering, being believers in [word indistinct], the Islamic ethics and respecting the sanctity of the shrine of the prophet -- peace be upon him -- left the place where they were chanting the Koran. But [words indistinct] followed them at high speed in their cars and sprayed them with water.

The attack began at a time when one of the Iranian clergymen began interpreting the Koran and delivering a sermon to the (?gathering) of Koran chanters. In his sermon he attacked Israel and America for their aggression against Islamic countries.

Today, after recitations from the holy Koran by one of the Koran chanters, while one of the clergymen was (?translating) the verse, the Saudi Arabian police disrupted the gathering. However, the calmness of the Koran chanters led the police to leave the gathering.

Release of Detainees Demanded

NC120826 Paris AFP in English 0804 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, Sep 12 (AFP) — The religious leader responsible for an Iranian pilgrimage to Mecca, Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Kho'ini, has formally demanded the release of pilgrims arrested by Saudi police after a demonstration Friday in Medina, Radio Tehran reported today.

In a protest note yesterday to Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the hojjat ol-Eslam said that as the representative of Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni he condemned the arrests as "odious," adding that "nothing can stop us accomplishing our Islamic duties".

The note said the Iranian pilgrims' "march for unity", organized in defiance of a Saudi ban of demonstrations, had been orderly and a success. "The blows and insults of your police could not disrupt this order and discipline", he said.

The demonstrators carried banners with slogans against the United States and Israel. Saudi authorities have said they are opposed to the "exploitation of the pilgrimage for political ends".

Several pilgrims were reportedly hurt during the police intervention.

Treatment of Iranians Scored

GF121128 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Kho'ini, the imam's representative and the supervisor of Iranian pilgrims, in regard to the harsh and insulting treatment of Saudi security officials toward Iranian pilgrims, sent a complaint to the state minister of Saudi Arabia. The text of the message is as follows:

In the name of God, the merciful and the compassionate. Your Excellency Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, respected interior minister of Saudi Arabia, as I had said before, yesterday's demonstration and march of the pilgrims was carried out with maximum discipline and good order and was a complete success; the insults and harshness of the officials of your government could not change this discipline.

Mr Minister, we in the Islamic revolution, which ended with overthrowing the American-Zionist regime of the deposed shah and establishment of the Islamic Republic of Iran, have had many gatherings and have suffered many insults. You probably have been told that our people did not even answer the harshness of the shah's police with harshness, because they knew that our real enemy was the United States and its malicious agent, the Zionist regime, and nobody has been able to divert our anger from the main enemy and direct it to subordinate elements.

Mr Minister, the things that were said during yesterdays' ceremony showed that our goal for this gathering is to unite Muslims, and from the slogans carried by the people, it was clear that the enemies of the Muslims are the United States, the Soviet Union and the Zionist regime. The brave Muslim people of Iran suffered a great deal and made many sacrifices to reach this godly goal and in their fight against these enemies of Islam.

Mr Minister, it is very sad to see an official communique carried by Saudi Arabian news media which one-sidedly labels our actions as political and outside the realm of the hajj activities.

Is inviting Muslims to unite and encouraging them to fight the enemies of God and Islam and to hate the Zionist regime and its leaders not a truly religious activity, especially a part of the glorious hajj ceremonies? Our information and observations show that the Muslims of other countries welcome our position and activities. If you do not believe it, make arrangements for us to attend one Friday the Mecca or Medina mosques without having your officials first threatening the Muslims present. Then we will be able to tell our thoughts to all Muslims so that the truth of our words will be proven to you, too.

Mr Minister, the Iranian pilgrims in Medina, by following the sayings of the great prophet of Islam -- the one who taught the Muslims how to fight the crusades and the polytheists and the conceited -- were asking for unity and were showing their hatred to the enemies of Islam.

At that point, most regrettably the Saudi Arabia police disgraced their official position by showing their readiness to crush this godly movement by not only surrounding the entire group but at times to show their strength by breaking the orderly rows of the demonstrations. All this was done for the benefit of the United States, the same United States that was defeated in Iran. At the end, when the Islamic tranquillity and good order of our brave people could not be marred, your police then showed their harshness.

Mr Minister, your officials attacked and wounded a group of women who have given their husbands, brothers, sons or other relatives for the cause of Islam. It should be asked what kind of honor is there in this kind of action for the Government of Saudi Arabia? Do you know that your officials wounded the people who had given their arm, leg or health for Islam? Does pulling a courageous cripple from his wheelchair and hitting him show the power of your officials or something else? What kind of feelings do you think the numerous Muslims who have suffered a lot as a result of the calamitous acts perpetrated by the United States, the Soviet Union and Israel have toward your police and security officials? Mr Minister, does not the arrest of representatives of the Majlis and insulting them also not mean insulting 40 million brave Iranian Muslims?

The people who are known as the enemy -- the United States and Israel -- who will have peace with them? How can wounding Iranian Muslims in the Medina of [words indistinct] because of opposing the United States, the Soviet Union and Israel be explained by your officials in an Islamic and acceptable way?

Mr Minister, do you know that your officials most rudely attacked the restrooms used by Iranian pilgrims, and even entered the ladies restroom, and insulted people and their dignity. How long can the revolutionary Muslim people of Iran keep silent when such ugly actions are taking place?

Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Kho'ini in this message also said: I, as the representative of Imam Khomeyni and the supervisor of the Iranian pilgrims, strongly condemn these very ugly actions that please the enemies of Islam and again announce decisively that nothing can stop us from carrying out our Islamic responsibilities. I ask you to order the release of the arrested people as soon as possible and do not hurt the feeling of the Muslim people of Iran more than you already have.

I also want you to order your officials to behave according to Islamic rules and in a way so as not to hurt the prestige of your government in the eyes of Muslims.

As I conclude, I want to make this point: You, according to the responsibilities you have, should take care of the interests of Saudi Arabia.

Message to Iranian Pilgrims

GF121430 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Kho'ini, the imam's representative and supervisor of Iranian pilgrims, sent a message to the Iranian pilgrims following the splendid demonstration that was held by the Iranian pilgrims in Medina in solidarity with all Muslims in the world. Expressing enmity to powers hostile to Islam, foremost of which are the criminal United States and the usurping Zionist entity, the message says:

Considering that you represent a committed people, your work yesterday was a divine duty. It aroused the anger of Islam's enemies. The Saudi officials must have been convinced of the incorrect method their security men used against you although the painful circumstances that you have faced are not heavier than the burdens you have borne due to the pressures and conspiracies of the United States or the many calamities you have experienced during the march of the Islamic revolution and thereafter.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Kho'ini expressed in his message his profound regret for the incorrect and inappropriate treatment by the Saudi police although Saudi Arabia is one of the Muslim nations that call for the unity of Muslims in order to struggle against the United States, the Zionist enemy and the Soviet Union. He also expressed gratitude for all brothers, sisters and clergymen who correctly performed their duties with revolutionary calmness and patience and in Islamic sobriety. He demanded the continuation of this conduct before the conduct of the Saudi security men.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Kho'ini stressed at the conclusion of his message that our primary enemy will continue to be international arrogance and the usurping Zionist entity.

The Central News Unit correspondent, who has been dispatched to Medina, reported that Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Kho'ini together with Hojjat ol-Eslam (Jirawani), Jamarani and (Estiani), went to the residence of a group of 72 Koran readers who went on the pilgrimage on behalf of the martyrs of the Islamic Republican Party central headquarters. One of the delegation's officials spoke at meeting about the method of selecting these readers. The representative of Lorestan Province readers recited some verses from the glorious Koran. Then Hojjat ol-Eslam Kho'ini delivered a speech in which he noted the importance of reciting the glorious Koran. He said that the Koran is the only comprehensive and absolute document that has been left for us by the messenger of God, may peace be upon him and his family. He added that the Koran affirms and proves Islam's superiority over all schools of thought and ideologies. No other school, he added, has anything similar to this document.

Official, Saudi Charge Meet

LD121804 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the charge at the Saudi Embassy in Tehran, at a meeting with the political and social under secretary at the Interior Ministry this morning, handed over a letter from his country's interior minister. During the meeting talks ranged on the anti-U.S. and anti-Zionist demonstrations by Iranian pilgrims and other Muslims held in Medina last Friday and the protest by Saudi Arabia.

During these talks the Interior Ministry political and social under secretary stated that the Iranian pilgrims' demonstrations in Medina stemmed from the imam of the Islamic nation's upcompromising and exposing line. During these demonstrations, held in an orderly manner in closed ranks, the anti-Islamic and antihuman policy lines of the East, West and usurping Israel were exposed. It follows therefore that the demonstrations held by our brother and sister pilgrims in themselves constitute a manner of worship considered to be one of the major acts of worship.

SYRIAN PRESIDENT'S ENVOY ARRIVES IN TEHRAN

LD122114 Tehran IRNA in English 2004 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 12, IRNA -- Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad, the Syrian minister of information and special envoy of President Hafiz al-Asad, who is heading a delegation, arrived here at 20:00 hours (local time).

The Syrian delegation was welcomed by the political undersecretary of the Iranian Foreign Ministry, Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam; head of the president's bureau, Mostafa Mir-Salim; and the Syrian ambassador to the Islamic Republic, Ibrahim Ahmad al-Yunis.

The first deputy of the Syrian Foreign Ministry, Naser Qodureh, is also accompanying the Syrian envoy.

IRANIANS TO FILL LIBYAN OIL INDUSTRY VACANCIES

GF101853 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 10 (IRNA) -- A group of 10 Iranian oil experts were the first group of about 200, who left Tehran for Tripoli yesterday. They are to fill the vacancies created in the Libyan oil industries by the departing U.S. experts. Deputy Oil Minister Kalhor said in Tehran yesterday that the group would stay in Libya for a year to train Libyans in exploration and refining operations. He added that the Libyan oil officials had admitted that Iranian experts were of higher caliber than the U.S. experts. He said the Islamic Republic of Iran would assist any friendly country which requested help in oil affairs. He said another group of 50 experts would follow this group and the rest of 200 experts would go to Libya later upon the request of the Libyan Government.

The Libyan ambassador in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Sa'd Mujbir, expressed his pleasure over the trip and said the common viewpoints of Iran and Libya towards Zionism and the Fes summit helped the two countries to become closer.

AFP: BOMB EXPLODES NEAR TEHRAN UNIVERSITY

NC121116 Paris AFP in English 1054 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, Sept 12 (AFP) -- Several passers-by were injured by flying glass when a small bomb exploded in Enqelab Square near Tehran University today, causing light damage, witnesses said.

Last Monday a car bomb killed 20 and injured another 100 in the center of Tehran.

'Ali Sham'khani, assistant commander of the revolutionary guards, said in an interview with the newspaper ETTELA'AT that six bombs had been defused in the capital in recent weeks.

1 Person Killed

LD122006 Tehran IRNA in English 1900 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 12, IRNA -- One person was martyred and three others were wounded when a concussion bomb exploded at Enqelab Square, in the west-central section of Tehran, near noon.

A passer-by became suspicious of a package placed in a telephone booth, located northeast of the square and when he picked it up trying to defuse it, at the centre of the square, it exploded in his hands, martyring him and wounding three persons near-by.

This was the third bomb explosion in Tehran last Monday.

On the evening of Sept 6th, a strong bomb planted in a vehicle exploded in southern Tehran, at afternoon rush hour, martyring 20 and wounding 100 others.

Also another bomb exploded on Thursday afternoon at Lalehzar Street, downtown Tehran, wounding three people.

In all cases, mercenary groups, including monarchists and the monafeqin [hypocrites] (MKO) [Mojahedin-e Khatq] are prime suspects, according to revolutionary committee and police sources.

OPERATIONS IN W. AZARBAYJAN, KORDESTAN REPORTED

LD101710 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1730 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that, at the Friday prayers in Urumiyeh today, the governor general of West Azarbayjan made a speech before the sermons, announcing that as a result of the efforts of the combatants of Islam fighting blasphemy and under the supervision of the "Hamzeh, Lord of the Martyrs" garrison, 40 km of the Piranshah-Sar Dasht road, which was under the control of counterrevolutionary minigroups, last night was cleaned of the filthy presence of elements subservient to the East or West. The victorious progress of the forces of Islam continues on this axis.

The governor of West Azarbayjan also said that, following the joint operations of the "Hamzeh, Lord of the Martyrs" garrison to eliminate the last remnants of the counterrevolution in Kordestan, last night one of the main hideouts of the Komeleh group was captured by the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Saqqez region of Kordestan Province. The selfless efforts of the combatants of Islam to liberate the Muslim Kurdish brothers from the evil domination of America's servants inside the country continues.

Further Details

LD110954 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 11 Sep 82

[Text] The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, in a statement issued at the central headquarters named after Hamzeh, lord of the martyrs, announced the results of the first phase of the heroic operations conducted by the zealous combatants of Islam. The first phase of the operation, which is codenamed Martyr (Naser Kazemi), was carried out under orders from the Hamzeh, Lord of the Martyrs headquarters with the following results:

During the first phase of the operation, which began 3 days ago, the fighters of Islam succeeded in killing or wounding at least 50 counterrevolutionaries along the Takab-Shahin Dezh axis. Considerable quantities of arms, including RPG-7 antitank missile launchers, G-3 rifles, Kalashnikov submachineguns, machineguns and handgrenades were seized and all the villages in the region were cleared of the counterrevolutionary filth.

In the second phase of the operation, the soldiers of Islam succeeded in liberating dozens of kilometers of Piranshah-Sar Dasht highway, which was under the occupation of the U.S.-mercenary elements in the region. During these operations, the Islamic fighters killed at least 100 counterrevolutionaries and wounded more than 150 of the despondent and defeated enemy. The warriors of Islam seized considerable quantities of arms and ammunition and two bulldozers.

The fighters of Islam cleansed the villages of (Jangabad), (Tarkeshush Bala) and (Tarkeshush Pa'in), the main centers of Muslim tribesmen of the region, from the counterrevolutionary filth.

The second phase of the operation is still continuing according to plans.